

be honored at a testimonial dinner by his home squadron, Uren Cooper Johnson Squadron #50, on Saturday, April 27. I ask you and our House colleagues to join me in thanking this dedicated and hard-working spokesman for veterans for a job well done.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JUDGE T.
PETER CRAVEN

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 2002

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise today and recognize the dedication and hard work of Judge T. Peter Craven. For over ten years, Pete has served as a Ninth Judicial District judge, and for over three decades he has served the people of Colorado in the judicial system. I am proud to represent such an incredible individual. Because of his unparalleled dedication and extraordinary prowess in his field, Pete is being honored by the Colorado Judicial Institute with the Judicial Excellence Award. It is truly an honor to be able to bring his many accomplishments to the attention of this body of Congress.

Judge Craven is known throughout his district for his careful attention and deliberation on each and every case that comes before him. He clearly recognizes that although the next case may be the fortieth that he has seen this week, the outcome will change the lives of the participants. His care and attention is evidenced by the set of small tables and chairs found in his office, which contain paper and crayons for the children involved in his cases. He truly believes in the importance of children having as much a say as anyone in the cases that will affect their lives.

The Honorable Judge has also been involved in developing new programs to improve the legal system. He has been instrumental in creating a drug court, where the legal system can address the specific and unique needs of substance abuse cases and provide the structure that is needed to make progress in that area. Pete has helped to develop a child advocacy program to ensure that the best interests of children are always taken into consideration by the courts.

Mr. Speaker, Judge Craven's dedication, innovation, and talent are an extraordinary example to all Coloradans, and indeed the entire Nation. The level of integrity and honesty with which the Judge has conducted himself each and every day while overseeing the laws of the great state of Colorado and our great country is remarkable, and I can think of no one more deserving of the Judicial Excellence Award. The attitude of this man reflects the modesty and levelheaded spirit of my district, as even though Judge Craven deserves every bit of this award, he insists that he share this honor with the many people with whom he works every day. It is an honor to be able to bring the accomplishments of such an incredible man to the attention of this body of Congress. Thank you Judge Craven for all that you have done for your State and for your country.

HONORING CAROLYN MCCARTHY

HON. FELIX J. GRUCCI, JR.

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 2002

Mr. GRUCCI. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Congresswoman CAROLYN MCCARTHY as she is recognized by the Long Island Federation of Labor for all her work and efforts on their behalf.

CAROLYN MCCARTHY, a life long resident of Mineola, was married to Dennis McCarthy in 1967 and they raised one son, Kevin. CAROLYN has 30 years experience as a nurse and is in her third term representing Long Island's 4th Congressional District.

CAROLYN received many honors during her second term, including one of Newsday's 100 Long Island Influentials, Congressional Quarterly's 50 Most Effective Legislators in Congress, one of nine Redbook Magazine's Mothers and Shakers, Ladies Home Journal list of America's 100 Most Important Women, and Advertising Age's list of "Most Impact by Women in 1999" along with U.S. Women's Soccer Team and Oprah Winfrey.

Congresswoman MCCARTHY serves on the Education and Workforce Committee, and the Budget Committee. As a member of the House Education and the Workforce Committee, CAROLYN advocates her goals of improving the quality of education, and keeping children safe from gun violence at school. Long Island schools, students and teachers remain the focus of MCCARTHY's work.

The Fourth Congressional District of New York is located on Long Island; it is a heavily suburban area with most of the residents commuting daily into New York City. A major commercial center, the Fourth District is also home to thousands of businesses.

STATEMENT ON IRAN

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 2002

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, in his State of the Union address, President George W. Bush rightly emphasized that "Iran aggressively pursues weapons [of mass destruction] and exports terror, while an unelected few repress the Iranian people's hope for freedom." This grim reality was recently underscored in the latest report by the U.N. Special Representative on the Situation of Human Rights in Iran who denounced an increase in public stonings, floggings, and executions in Iran.

Attorney General John Ashcroft pointed last year to the Iranian regime's role in the bombing of the Khobar Towers in Saudi Arabia. The Minister of the Revolutionary Guards at the time claimed responsibility for the 1983 bombing against Americans in Lebanon and said: "both the TNT and ideology which in one blast sent to hell 400 officers, NCOs and soldiers at the Marine Headquarters have been provided by Iran." The Iranian regime continues to support the terrorist and fundamentalist groups in the region. The intervention of the Revolutionary Guards in Afghanistan is of great concern as well.

The Iranian regime's track record inside the country is even worse, and includes the exe-

cution of some 120,000 and imprisonment of hundreds of thousands for political charges. In a resolution last December, the UN General Assembly condemned the "growing number of executions," in particular "public and especially cruel executions, such as stoning," and "the use of torture and other forms of cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment," as well as discrimination against persons belonging to minorities" and the "systematic discrimination against women." In the same month, the European Parliament in a unanimous resolution announced that the human rights situation in Iran has actually deteriorated in many aspects.

Five years after President Khatami's election, the Iranian regime continues to be the leading state sponsor of terrorism, pursues an ambitious weapons of mass destruction program, and has stepped up repression against its own population. This is further substantiated in the State Department human rights report released on March 4th of this year, which states that the regime's record "regarding freedom of expression, which has worsened during the past few years, continued to deteriorate;" that "the Government denies the universality of human rights;" and that "discrimination against women is reinforced by law" with the regime enforcing "gender segregation in most public spaces." Summarizing the horrific situation in Iran, the State Department report highlights that: "Systematic abuses include summary executions, disappearances, widespread use of torture and other degrading treatment. . . ."

The State Department report on human rights practices also acknowledges that resistance groups such as the Mojahedin have become the target of the political repression of the Iranian regime. The report states that supporters of political organizations "such as the Mojahedin, are believed to make up a large number of those executed each year." Photographic evidence of the flogging and hangings that supporters of the Mojahedin are subjected to was provided at a hearing on March 6, 2002 of the House Subcommittee on International Operations and Human Rights of the Committee on International Relations.

The President announced recently that in dealing with regimes such as Iran's, "the price of indifference would be catastrophic." I agree, and I urge the Administration to review all options available to hold the Iranian government accountable for its support of terrorism and its abysmal human rights record, and to help promote democratic change in the country.

PERSONAL EXPLORATION

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 2002

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my regret for having missed a vote last Thursday, April 18, because I was Chairing an important hearing before the Benefits Subcommittee of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee.

Had I been able to vote, I would have voted against the Smith Motion to Instruct the conferees to the 2002 Farm Bill on the Senate's payment limitation provision.